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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-Hour Report

21 November 2017

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Sacramento - Hackers Attack Sacramento Transit System and Demand \$8,000 Ransom

(U) Computer hackers directly attacked the Sacramento Regional Transit (SacRT) system computers this weekend, erasing data and threatening to do more harm if SacRT did not pay the ransom of one bitcoin, worth approximately \$8,000. The attack erased parts of the computer programs on the agency's servers that affect internal operations, including the ability to use English to dispatch employees and assign buses for routes according to SacRT COO Mark Lonergan. Regional Transit officials said they have determined that no data was stolen and are working to secure their system from further attack. SOURCE: 20 November 2017, Sacramento Bee

(U) San Francisco – Northern California Hells Angels Members Indicted on Murder, Racketeering

(U) Northern California members of the Hells Angels motorcycle club were recently indicted on multiple federal charges, including murder. Indictments on charges of racketeering, murder, maiming, home invasion, extortion, and witness tampering were issued against 11 people, including eight members of the Sonoma County Hells Angels chapter, one from the Fresno chapter, and another from the Salem/Boston Chapter. The FBI said the arrests and indictments were the culmination of a three-year investigation which included Santa Rosa Police, the California Highway Patrol, and the Sonoma County Sheriff's Office.

SOURCE: 21 November 2017, CBS SF Bay Area

(U) NATIONAL

(U) District of Columbia - United States Places North Korea on State Sponsor of Terror List

(U) Washington – The US Department of State designated North Korea as a state sponsor of terror yesterday, a move President Trump announced during a public meeting with his Cabinet. North Korea which was removed from the list in 2008—joins Sudan, Syria, and Iran as the US-designated state sponsors of terror. The designation allows for further sanctions against the North Korean government and is intended to bolster US efforts to diminish North Korea's nuclear program.

SOURCE: 21 November 2017, CNN

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Germany – Six Syrian Men Arrested on Suspicion of ISIS Christmas Attack Plot

(U) Berlin – Six Syrian men were arrested in raids throughout Germany today on suspicion of planning a directed Islamic State of Iraq and ash-Sham (ISIS) terror attack. The suspects intended to attack a Christmas market in Essen, a city in western Germany, according to unconfirmed reports. All suspects entered Germany as asylum seekers and were reported by other asylum seekers as fighters who had fought for ISIS in Syria. Cities across Germany have ordered new security measures for Christmas markets this year, including concrete bollards to prevent a repeat of the last year's attack in Berlin. SOURCE: 21 November 2017, The Telegraph

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(U) Nigeria – At Least 50 Killed by Suicide Attack on Mosque

(U) Maiduguri – At least 50 people were killed today in northeastern Nigeria when a teenage bomber detonated his explosives in a mosque packed for morning prayers. No group has yet to claim responsibility for the attack, but the Boko Haram extremist group is suspected. Boko Haram is based in neighboring Borno state and is blamed for similar attacks in the past, including an attack last week which killed 14.

SOURCE: 21 November 2017, CBS News

(U) Spain – Spanish Police Arrest Suspected ISIS Recruiter

(U) Melilla – Spanish police arrested a 21-year-old man in the North Africa enclave of Melilla for carrying out indoctrination on behalf of ISIS. The Spanish citizen was arrested for his "full affiliation and commitment" to ISIS, and his arrest meant the neutralization of a "potential threat," according to the national police. Investigators found the man took exceptional security measures in order to avoid being detected by law enforcement, and was in direct contact with people convicted for being part of ISIS who indoctrinated and sent fighters from Melilla and Morocco to conflict areas.

SOURCE: 21 November 2017, The Local ES

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) California – Drugs Made in Mexican 'Super Labs' are More Potent than Ever

(U) San Diego – Recent analysis of methamphetamine, heroin, fentanyl, cocaine, and marijuana in the US—much of which comes from or through Mexico—has shown to be at higher levels of purity and potency than a decade ago. Meth entering the United States is nearly 100 percent pure, while 10 years ago it was 39 percent pure. Heroin is testing at 40 to 50 percent purity, while in 2015 it was testing at 35 percent purity. Cocaine is testing at 56 percent purity, while last year it was approximately 45 to 49 percent pure.

SOURCE: 20 November 2017, Los Angeles Times

(U) Texas - Slain US Border Patrol Agent May Have Been Ambushed

(U) Van Horn – The Border Patrol agent who was killed 19 November was possibly ambushed and killed by migrants who beat him with rocks, according to the president of the National Border Patrol Council union. Federal officials have not yet provided specific details about the incident, but the union representing Border Patrol agents has described the attack. The FBI, Texas Rangers, and local agencies are investing the death and will hold a briefing today.

SOURCE: 20 November 2017, Los Angeles Times

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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